

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

May 27, 1999

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Mr. President. This is the part of a legislative session that we all look forward to and yet we all have a very heavy heart when we do this portion. It's my honor this afternoon to give a plaque in honor of the service of State Senator Chris Peterson, who will be leaving us shortly, and I think it's really important for members to reflect about how important their service here is to the Legislature. Unfortunately, sometimes the only time we do reflect is when someone leaves, and hopefully we'll all appreciate the importance of what we do but today is a very, very special day. Senator Chris, I knew from the very first day I saw you on TV you were going to be a perfect fit for the Legislature. You had that smile, that wit, you were articulate in front of the cameras, you defeated an incumbent state senator, all things that are very hard to do. And when I met you in person you were even better, and it's been so much fun to have you here. And the accomplishments, members, I think it's appropriate to reflect a little bit about Senator Peterson's I'd call it a short stay with us. But the first woman that I can remember in the modern era to be put on the Revenue Committee. How you could put up with that group I'll never know. The good thing is they had to put up with you. You got a Law Enforcement Training Center to Grand Island. That's a very, very big piece of legislation in your second year here. The slamming bill this year, the methamphetamine bill this year, all top priorities of yours, very, very good work well done. And I know I speak on behalf of every member of the Legislature it's been an honor to serve with you, we wish you well, and we won't forget you and we trust that you won't forget us and your service here. And, as a small memento of our appreciation and something I hope that you will treasure for a number of years, I'd like to present you with your plaque at this point in time. Senator Chris Peterson.

SENATOR C. PETERSON: This is going to be as hard as I thought it was going to be. In the last several months, when I knew that I would not be returning, I would try to sit and capture moments so that I could have those memories, and as I looked around this Chamber I was always filled with a sense of awe, and as I would sit and listen to debate or watch the action on the floor, I always felt the history, the timeless tradition and a deep appreciation for the honor of being a state senator, and my